

System for High Density Linear Serpentine Data Recording

Abstract of Disclosure

A recording system comprises a read-write head with a length that is substantially smaller than the width of the tape, the small mass of the head allows high frequency track following. The head contacts only that area of the tape currently being accessed, significantly reducing the tape and the head wear. The head flies over the tape with the flying height tightly controlled even at high tape speed and low tape tension. Several methods to stabilize the tape in the recording area are disclosed. The stabilizer can be a second recording head allowing dual sided recording. A first implementation uses a linear actuator and a second implementation uses a rotary actuator. A mechanism moves the head from the path of a threading mechanism.

Figures